

From: Brad Schmitcke
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Case

As a consumer, a citizen, and a registered voter, I am appalled at the settlement that has been proposed for Microsoft's anti-trust case. Bill Gates should spend time in prison like anyone else who would submit false evidence to a federal court. There are so many specific points that I cannot go into all of them here.

However, it is clear that MS is not getting the punishment it deserves. They are a law breaking monopoly. Their CEO is a cheater.

Allowing MS to merely donate one billion dollars in software that it develops and values is like telling a thief he can pay one victim with the money he has raised from stealing from others. Actually, it would be more like telling a thief that he can pay one victim with the profits he has made on the sale of property he has stolen from other victims.

Microsoft would not have reached its current financial level if it hadn't done some very illegal and unscrupulous things. Microsoft has been found guilty in a Federal Court. How much is Bill Gates worth now? How much was he worth before he broke the law. He should be reduced to his former shadow and even be taken down a notch from there. If I did some of the things that Bill Gates and MS had done, and if I were prosecuted and convicted, I would have nothing and I would be in prison. What is the difference between Bill Gates and me in this land of equality? Does the amount of money a person has determine their level of equality before the law? In theory, no. In practice, it seems to be YES!!

Well, just as a murderer cannot collect life insurance on someone he has killed, MS should not be allowed to keep money that was obtained through illegal practices. Furthermore, they should not be rewarded by being allowed to penetrate the educational market as a "punishment".

Give Bill Gates what he deserves. He deserves to be punished, not rewarded with another avenue in which to unfairly dominate a market.

Regards,

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